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News and Events

Dr. Maimon Announces Provost Candidates' Campus Visits

I am pleased to announce that two highly qualified candidates will visit Governors State University during the first two weeks of December.

On Friday, December 4, we will host Dr. Terry Allison, Dean of the College of Arts and Letters at California State University, Los Angeles. Before moving to Cal State LA, he served in various positions at California State University, San Marcos. (Click here for Dr. Allison's [resume](#) and [letter of interest](#).)

On Monday, December 8, we will host Dr. Carmen Coballes-Vega, Dean of the College of Professional Studies, Metropolitan State University (St. Paul, Minnesota). Before moving to Metropolitan State, she served as Dean of the College of Education and Human Services at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. (Click here for Dr. Coballes-Vega's [resume](#) and [letter of interest](#).)

These invitations result from months of careful screening and deliberations by the Provost Search and Screening Committee, chaired by Interim Provost David Curtis and assisted by Academic Search consultant Dr. Jamie Ferrare. (Please click here for list of [search committee members](#).) The committee received 78 applications from candidates who were inspired by our mission and forward momentum. From his experience with Provost searches across the nation, Dr. Ferrare has commented that we attracted a particularly strong pool of candidates.

At an off-site location, the search committee conducted in depth interviews over a two-day period with seven semi-finalists. With Dr. Ferrare's assistance, we have done extensive and thorough referencing, focusing particularly on questions that we identified for follow-up on each candidate. As a result, we have invited Dr. Allison and Dr. Coballes-Vega to campus.

Although the candidates will be visiting during a busy period, please reserve time to welcome them and to attend the open sessions designated on the agenda (click here for [schedules](#)). We will provide

evaluation forms for your commentary.

In developing its final recommendations to me, the search committee was guided by the following criteria: (1) conceptual and analytical depth; (2) demonstrated leadership effectiveness; (3) demonstrated evidence as a strategic thinker; (4) demonstrated commitment to diversity; (5) demonstrated ability to manage transformational change. It is these qualities and skills that we will be using in our final selection of our new provost. The recent HLC visit should motivate us to look particularly at the candidate's experience in leading the faculty in developing an institutional effectiveness plan that integrates the assessment of student learning, general education learning outcomes, and the implementation of what we learn to improve what we do.

I know that we will learn a great deal from the candidates about higher education nationally and about ourselves. Please participate in this exciting process.

Sincerely,



Elaine P. Maimon, Ph.D.
President

CJUS Debate Ethics



During the end-of-trimester debates in CJUS440 *Exploring Ethics in Criminal Justice* last year, a student "closer" stood up and wandered over to the audience area. To illustrate her objections to the USA Patriot Act – the topic of the student debate – she pulled a wallet from an audience member's purse, then started going through the credit cards. Under the Patriot Act, she said, this is what the government is allowed to do.

"That absolutely nailed it," says Dr. James Coldren, who teaches CJUS440, a required course for Criminal Justice majors. "Until that moment, her team had been trailing in points. Her closing made the difference."

Coldren is excited about this trimester's debates, scheduled for Dec. 2 in the Hall of Honors. "This is a special group," he says. "The students are smart, they are opinionated, and they are taking this very seriously."

Four teams will compete, with pairs of squads facing off in the initial rounds on topics dealing with attorney-client privilege and parental use of corporal punishment. Time limits are strictly observed and a panel of faculty members will judge each team's ability to make a convincing argument.

Students are involved throughout the debate planning process. Early in the trimester, they decide whether to hold debates or write research papers. They pick the topics. Each student in the class must speak during the presentation, rebuttal, or closing phases of the debates. The debates make up a "significant" portion of the grade, Coldren says.

This is the third year for CJUS440 debates. Coldren says the debate format works because Criminal Justice students get emotionally involved in topics based on intriguing ethical questions.

"These are questions for which there is no right or wrong. They know that someday they'll be asked to make real-life decisions on those same kinds of questions."

Faculty Senate Elects New President

At its recent meeting, the Faculty Senate elected Senator Heikki Heino as Faculty Senate President for the two-year term of 2009-11. Dr Heino is a professor of finance in the College of Business and Public Administration.

Gobble, Gobble

GSU will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday from November 26 through November 29.

Remember – gravy stains are best removed by pre-washing with a grease-cutting dish detergent such as Palmolive and a little elbow grease.

It's Party Time

Dr. Maimon and the Board of Trustees invite the GSU faculty and staff to celebrate the holidays together on Friday, December 11, from 3:30 to 5 p.m., in the Hall of Governors.

Please RSVP to Penny Perdue at ext 6364.

Best Gift Ever

Holiday gift buying can't get any easier than Follett's fabulous crewneck sweatshirt sale. While supplies last, crewneck sweatshirts are on sale for two for \$20 or \$11.95 each. Outfit yourself, your friends, and your family.

MV Sport style #135F only. Limit 10 per person. This sale cannot be combined with any other offers. Visit the GSU bookstore, in D wing next to the cafeteria. Call 708.534.4558 for details.



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